

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 14, with the following amended paragraph:

The invention concerns a sol of a rare earth phosphate, the rare earth being cerium or lanthanum, more precisely an orthophosphate with formula  $\text{LnPO}_4$ ,  $\text{Ln}$   $\text{LaPO}_4$ ,  $\text{La}$  designating the rare earth. This orthophosphate is hydrated and has a hexagonal structure. The invention is, of course, applicable to mixed cerium and lanthanum phosphates  $(\text{La,Ce})\text{PO}_4$  and the term "rare earth phosphate" will be used in a general manner in the remainder of the description with the meaning which has just been defined in this paragraph.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 13, with the following amended paragraph:

The concentration of the sol can vary between wide limits, for example in the range of 0.01 to 2 moles of  $\text{LnPO}_4$   $\text{LaPO}_4$  per litre.